

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/450,757

Applicant(s)

ISHII ET AL

Examiner

Art Unit

Mehrdad Dastouri

2623

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to December 28, 2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1, 3, 5, 7-10, 12 and 13 (Renumbered 1-9).
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 30 November 1999 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).**
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. Applicants' amendment filed December 28, 2004, has been entered and made of record.
2. Objection to Claims 3, 5, and 10 has been withdrawn in view of Applicants' amendment.
3. 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph rejection of Claims 1, 3, 5 and 7 has been withdrawn in view of Applicants' amendment.

Response to Arguments

4. Applicant's arguments, see Remarks, Pages 6-8, filed December 28, 2004, with respect to Claims 1 and 10 have been fully considered and are persuasive. The rejection of Claims has been withdrawn.

Allowable Subject Matter

5. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The instant invention recites a fingerprint identification methodology and device comprising a feature-extracting unit to extract the features of a corrected or compressed fingerprint data received from a fingerprint reader unit, and a database unit to record a fingerprint database that is provided in advance. The invention further comprises a fingerprint comparing unit that identifies the fingerprint by comparing the extracted fingerprint features with the fingerprint data recorded in the database unit and a user recording unit that records a temporary fingerprint data of the fingerprint.

The temporary fingerprint data (personal biometric data) to be recorded in the temporary recording unit is the fingerprint data received from the fingerprint reader unit, and the temporary recording unit ignores the temporary fingerprint data in the temporary recording unit when the fingerprint comparing unit identifies the fingerprint, and further, the temporary recording unit automatically sends the temporary fingerprint data to the user recording unit for storing the temporary fingerprint data only when the fingerprint comparing unit does not identify the fingerprint, in order to thereafter narrow down a location of malfunction in the fingerprint identification device.

The features identified, are neither discussed nor suggested by the prior arts of record.

6. Claims 1, 3, 5, 7-10, 12 and 13 are allowed.
7. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Contact Information

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mehrdad Dastouri whose telephone number is (571) 272-7418. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m..

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Amelia Au can be reached on (571) 272-7414. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Mehrdad Dastouri
Primary examiner
Art Unit 2623
May 29, 2005

MEHRDAD DASTOURI
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Mehrdad Dastouri